



# *Milwaukee County*

## Supervisor Chris Larson, 14<sup>th</sup> District

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### **IT'S TIME TO PROVIDE BENEFITS IN FAIR AND EQUITABLE MANNER**

#### *Study on domestic partner benefits approved by County Board*

**Milwaukee, WI** – Milwaukee County Supervisor Chris Larson released the following statement after the County Board agreed to study the extension of benefits to domestic partners of Milwaukee County Employees:

“I applaud my colleagues on the County Board for doing the right thing this morning. There is a precedent for administering employee benefits in a fair and equitable manner. The City of Milwaukee and many other local government jurisdictions already offer this common sense approach. In most governments, less than one percent of employees even exercise this option. I am confident that the conclusion of this study will show that the impact to Milwaukee County will be minimal.

“The majority of Fortune 500 companies already offer this benefit, along with more than 600 local government entities and a growing number of states. There is little question about where history will take us in terms of civil rights. All of our employees should be accepted equally. This morning, the County Board took a stand on the right side of this humanitarian issue.

“The time is always right to do what’s right. With this vote this morning, the arc of history continues to bend toward equality in Milwaukee County.”

*The resolution approved this morning calls for County staff to draft revisions to extend health benefit coverage to domestic partners of eligible Milwaukee County employees and submit a final plan to the Personnel Committee and the Finance & Audit Committee no later than July 1, 2010.*

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